

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A liquid container comprising:

5 a liquid containing portion defining a space for containing liquid;

a liquid supply portion installed in the liquid containing portion to supply the liquid from the liquid containing portion to a liquid using portion; and

10 a valve to introduce the atmosphere into the liquid containing portion to adjust a negative pressure in the liquid containing portion, the negative pressure being created as the liquid in the liquid containing portion is consumed;

15 wherein the valve can be closed by pressing its valve disc against a seal member;

wherein the liquid container further includes a closing member installed in a path, the path establishing communication between a seal portion at  
20 which the valve disc and the seal member contact each other and the liquid containing portion, the closing member being capable of enabling or disabling the communication through the path.

25 2. A liquid container as claimed in claim 1, further including:

a valve chamber in which the valve is installed;

and

a communication path connecting the valve chamber with the liquid containing portion;

wherein the closing member closes the communication  
5 path.

3. A liquid container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the closing member is normally closed and, when the liquid using portion consuming the liquid and  
10 the liquid container are connected with each other, enables the fluidal communication.

4. A liquid container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the closing member is a film member which,  
15 when broken, enables the communication.

5. A liquid container as claimed in claim 1, wherein, after the closing member is opened, if the liquid container and the liquid using portion are not  
20 connected with each other, the closing member returns to a closed state.

6. A liquid container as claimed in claim 5, wherein the closing member is formed of a rubber  
25 material having a slit therein.

7. A liquid container as claimed in claim 5,

wherein the closing member is a check valve.

8. A liquid container as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein the liquid container has a connection closing  
5 member that closes the liquid supply portion when the  
liquid container is not connected to the liquid using  
portion; and

when the liquid container is connected to the  
liquid using portion, the liquid supply portion  
10 opening action by the connection closing member causes  
the liquid supply portion to enable the communication.

9. A liquid container as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein a mechanism portion of the connection closing  
15 member that causes the closing member to open the  
communication path is formed hollow.

10. A liquid container as claimed in claim 1,  
further including:

20 a movable portion displaceably or deformably  
provided in at least a part of the liquid containing  
portion; and

a biasing means for urging the movable portion in a  
direction that increases a volume of the liquid  
25 containing space;

wherein, as the liquid is supplied to the outside,  
the biasing means is displaced to cause the closing

member to open the communication path.

11. A liquid container as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein the communication path has a communication  
5 path movable portion deformably provided in at least a  
part of a sidewall thereof, and the closing member  
presses the communication path movable portion to  
close the communication path.

10 12. A liquid container as claimed in claim 11,  
wherein, in a process of connecting the liquid  
container to the liquid using portion, an action from  
the liquid using portion opens the closing member.

15 13. A liquid container as claimed in claim 11,  
wherein the closing member is formed integral with a  
packaging material packaging the liquid container and,  
in a process of removing the packaging material, the  
closing member is opened.

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14. A liquid container as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein the closing member closes an atmosphere  
introduction port formed in the valve disc.

25 15. A liquid using apparatus connectable to the  
liquid container of claim 1 and using the liquid  
supplied from the liquid containing space.

16. A liquid using apparatus as claimed in claim  
15, having a form of print head which performs  
printing by using ink supplied from the liquid  
5 container containing ink as the liquid.

17. A printing apparatus comprising a means to  
perform printing by using the liquid using apparatus  
of claim 16 which has the form of print head.

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18. An ink jet print head cartridge comprising:  
an ink jet print head to eject ink; and  
the liquid container of claim 1 for containing, as  
the liquid, ink to be supplied to the ink jet print  
15 head.